THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The new initiatives include (i) inter-fuel substitution in transport sector; (ii) production of high grade lubricants; (iii) use of synthetic thickners for textile pigment printing; and (iv) Coverage of new or inadequately covered areas of oil conservation efforts.

(b) and (c) (i) The PCRA has been promoting increased re-refining of used oil. (ii) The R&D efforts have resulted in increasing the thermal efficiency of kerosene wick stoves and LPG stoves. (iii) The efforts for inter-fuel substitution are being coordinated in the Ministry.

(d) The efforts made by or through PCRA helped in saving petroleum products estimated at about Rs. 495 crores during the Seventh Plan period inspite of various constraints. The anual recurring saving in 1991-92 on this account was of the order of Rs. 262 crores. During the Oil Conservation Week observed in February, 1992, the PCRA incurred a toal expenditure of Rs. 42 lakhs. The efforts of the PCRA, which were supplemented by the oil companies and various other organisations, during the Oil Conservation Week were mainly aimed at the broadening of the base of mass awareness. The impact of such efforts need to be viewed in the context of the overall results including saving referred to above.

Utilisation of Natural Gas

74. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made to find out the quantum of natural gas available in Tanjore district of Tamil Nadu which can be utilised for industrial purposes ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) whether any proposal has been submitted to Government for utilising the natural gas found in this area for industrial purposes and if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Geoscientific surveys and exploratory drilling have been carried out in the area but no commercial discovery has been made so far.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of Grassroot Refinery

75. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has submitted a proposal to set up a six million tonne grassroot refinery and if so, what are the details thereof ;

(b) whether the Corporation has given detailed proposals to raise funds for this project on its own and if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to direct the Corporation to implement this project along with a foreign private partner and if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) M/s Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) have submitted a proposal for setting up a 6 million tonnes per annum (MMTPA) grassroot refinery in Central India. A site selection committee has been constituted to identify the suitable location for this refinery. This refinery will be set up as a joint venture between BPCL and suitable private sector company, in order to attract the required resources including foreign exchange for the project.

इलाहाबाद में रसोई गैस कनेक्शनों की प्रतीक्षा सूची

76. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय** : क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 31 मई, 1992 की स्थिति के अनुसार इलाहाबाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) में रसोई गैस के